

Minutes of the Exchange of Information Meeting
Colorado Department of Health
EG&G Rocky Flats, Inc.



Date: 24 September 1991

Location: Broomfield City Council
Chambers

Attendees:

A. Lange
C. Wolfe
H. Mahan
K. Schnoor
S. Nachtrieb
S. Ramer
R. Fox
A. Hazle
M. Hanrahan
C. Johannes
G. Hill
S. Cloud
N. Daugherty
L. Dunstan
D. Elliott
T. Morrow
S. Pettis

- Chem Hill
- Colorado Daily
- City of Broomfield
- City of Broomfield
- City of Westminster
- City of Westminster
- Colorado Dept. of Health - RFPD
- Colorado Dept. of Health - RFPD
- Colorado Dept. of Health - RCD
- Colorado Dept. of Health - HMWM
- Dept. of Energy
- EG&G Rocky Flats, Inc.
- EG&G Rocky Flats, Inc.
- EG&G Rocky Flats, Inc.
- EG&G Rocky Flats, Inc.
- EG&G Rocky Flats, Inc.
- EG&G Rocky Flats, Inc.

N. Daugherty reported that there were no changes to the List of Radioactive Materials Associated with Rocky Flats Plant.

H. Mahan presented the City of Broomfield Radiometric Monitoring Report for the August monitoring period. All of the data contained in the Broomfield Report were below regulatory limits and were consistent with past measurements at their respective locations.

S. Ramer presented the City of Westminster Radiation Data Monthly Report for August 1991. All data in the Westminster Report were consistent and normal with what has been seen in the past.

M. Hanrahan presented the Colorado Department of Health (CDH) Environmental Surveillance Report for August 1991. For the fifth month in a row, the Total Suspended Particulate (TSP) air sampler at the Air Pollution Control Division's sampling location in Adams City has produced at least one gross alpha radioactivity measurement that is significantly higher than the other measurements in the data set. The sample for Particulate Materials less than 10 micrometers mean aerodynamic diameter (PM-10) at the same location continued to show normal results. The PM-10 sample is more indicative of particle sizes of interest for potential health impacts, and CDH expects that the public health implication of the above-average TSP measurements probably is very small. The CDH Radiation Control Division will initiate an investigation of these observations; however, CDH indicated that there is no reason to believe that the elevated measurements are related to airborne emissions from Rocky Flats Plant.

ADMIN RECORD

CDH also indicated that positive identification of plutonium was made in July composite samples of the raw water intake to the Broomfield Water Treatment Plant from the Great Western Reservoir, with a slightly lower concentration in the finished water. Positive identification of plutonium also was made in July composite samples of the raw water intake to the Westminster (Semper) Water Treatment Plant from Standley Lake. CDH indicated that the plutonium concentrations found were very low and well within the limits set by current standards for protection against radiation that have been established by the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, The Colorado State Board of Health, and the U. S. Department of Energy, as well as water quality standards that have been established by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Colorado Water Quality Control Commission.

All other environmental measurements described in Tables A through G showed no obvious anomalies in the extent and degree of radioactive contamination in the vicinity of Rocky Flats Plant. All measurements in both air and water were consistent with measurements that have been reported in the past.

N. Laugherty presented the August 1991 Rocky Flats Monthly Environmental Monitoring Report. The May 1991 plutonium release activity for the Building 776 Plenum 250 sampling location was above values typically seen within recent months for that location, although within levels historically seen for the building. Since there was no failure of quality assurance criteria for the analysis, the results were reported as part of the May 1991 air effluent release value for the Plant. In addition, a second aliquot of the sample was analyzed to verify the original results. The results of the second analysis are now complete and confirmed the original analysis. No activities in Building 776 have been identified that would have resulted in the increased plutonium value.

The tritium (H-3) monitoring results for the August 15, 1991, sample from Standley Lake are above values typically seen for that location. The analytical procedure for tritium in surface water samples includes distillation of the original sample. Two aliquots of the distilled August 15th water sample were analyzed and yielded similar elevated tritium results (1534 ± 249 pCi/l and 1479 ± 264 pCi/l). Samples taken for Standley Lake before and after the August 15th sample showed typical tritium concentrations (-85 ± 179 pCi/l to 107 ± 182 pCi/l). Samples taken from Pond C-1 during August also showed typical tritium levels (-60 ± 170 to 133 ± 187). A further analysis was performed on remaining pre-distillation August 15th sample water from Standley Lake to determine if the sample could have been contaminated in the original distillation process. The results of those analyses - performed by both the RFP General Laboratory and the Radiological Health Laboratory - indicated no unusual tritium elevation. Results of the analysis performed by the Plant's General Laboratory (Bldg. 881) were <240 pCi/l; results of the duplicate analyses performed by the RFP Radiological Health Laboratory (Bldg. 123) were 194 ± 199 pCi/l and 5 ± 187 pCi/l, respectively. These later results indicate that an error in performing the initial distillation process was the likely result of the initial elevated tritium results.

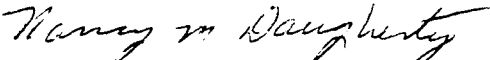
No offsite discharges from RFP were in progress at the time the August 15th sample was taken from Standley Lake, and no discharges from RFP from Pond C-2 have entered Standley Lake since late 1989. No other sampling for RFP during the August 15th period indicated above-normal tritium levels. Samples taken by CDH on August 13 and 27, 1991, of Westminster raw water coming from Standley Lake, also showed no elevated tritium concentrations.

D. Elliott presented the September 1991 Engineering Update. The following General Interest Projects were included: Existing Onsite Nitrogen Plant, Laundry Facility, Electrical Distribution System, Calibration Laboratory, Medical building addition, TRUPACT Shipping Facility, Office Trailers, and Sewage Treatment Plant Projects, New Medical Facility, and Integrated HS&E Building. Environmental Interest Projects included: Exhaust Plenum Modifications (on hold, Bldg. 771), FU-1 Plenum (Bldg. 771), FU-2B Plenum (on hold, Bldg. 771), Ventilation System Building Supply Replacement (Bldg. 771), Interim Remedial Action for the 881 Hillside, Air Pollution Emission Notices (APENs) Study, Supercompactor (Bldg. 776), Plutonium Recovery Modification Project (on hold, Bldg. 371), and Tent shelter at Pond A-4.

There were no changes to the monitoring programs for CDH or RFP or for the Cities of Broomfield or Westminster.

One new special agenda item was announced by RFP for the October, 1991 meeting - "Volatile organic chemical and metals monitoring under the Rocky Flats Plant NPDES/FFCA."

The next Information Exchange Meeting will be held at 1:30 pm, Tuesday, October 29, 1991, at the Colorado Department of Health, Denver, Colorado, Room 150.


Nancy M. Daugherty, Health Physicist
Air Quality and Chemical Tracking Division
Environmental Management Department
EG&G Rocky Flats, Inc.